IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

HOLOGIC, INC., and CYTYC SURGICAL PRODUCTS, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

v.

C.A. No.: 15-1031-JFB-SRF

MINERVA SURGICAL, INC.,

Defendant.

PLAINTIFFS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 1 TO EXCLUDE REFERENCE TO OR USE OF INTER PARTES REVIEW PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO THE '183 PATENT-IN-SUIT

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Minerva asserts that the '183 Patent PTO proceedings are relevant to willfulness as to the '183 Patent. In the interest of narrowing the issues for trial, Hologic hereby withdraws its claim for willfulness as to '183 Patent (Hologic will continue to assert willfulness as to the '348 Patent only). With this narrowing of issues, Minerva's argument now fails for this reason alone. The '183 Patent PTO proceedings has no relevance, and would only confuse the jury.

Further, the Court's finding that "Minerva's invalidity defenses are barred by assignor estoppel" also precludes Minerva from relying on the '183 Patent PTO proceedings. (D.I. 407 at 24.) The Court granted Hologic's motion for summary judgment that the '183 Patent is *not* invalid.¹ An unavailable defense cannot provide a reasonable belief of invalidity.

The interim results of the PTO are also not a defense to willful infringement because they occurred after the fact. What matters is Minerva's state of mind *at the time of infringement*. (*See* D.I. 86 at 8–14 (no assertions of '183 patent invalidity)); *WBIP*, *LLC* v. *Kohler Co.*, 829 F.3d 1317, 1340 (Fed. Cir. 2016); *see also Exmark Mfg. Co. Inc.* v. *Briggs & Stratton Power Prods. Grp.*, *LLC*, 879 F.3d 1332, 1353 (Fed. Cir. 2018).

Any probative value "is substantially outweighed by the risk of unfair prejudice and the risk of confusing the jury." *Personalized User Model, L.L.P. v. Google Inc.*, No. 09-525-LPS, 2014 WL 807736, at *3 (D. Del. Feb. 27, 2014); *Integra LifeSciences Corp. v. HyperBranch Med. Tech., Inc.*, No. 15-819-LPS-CJB, 2018 WL 2186677, at *1 (D. Del. May 11, 2018). There is a high likelihood the jury gives undue weight to the PTO, which applies a different legal standard, and which is on appeal at the Federal Circuit. *XY, LLC v. Trans Ova Genetics, LC*, No. 13-cv-0876-WJM-NYW, 2016 WL 97691, at *2 (D. Colo. Jan. 7, 2016) ("[t]here is a substantial risk that the jury will give undue weight to evidence of a decision by [the PTO].") For these reasons and those in Hologic's Motion (D.I. 392), the Motion should be granted.

¹ Minerva cannot present evidence to the contrary, as Minerva admits that its expert's "opinions on invalidity . . . [are] moot in light of the Court's summary judgment order." (D.I. 423 at 2.)

DATED: July 6, 2018

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Karen L. Pascale, Esquire, hereby certify that on July 6, 2018, I caused to be electronically filed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF (which will send notification that such filing is available for viewing and downloading to all registered counsel), and in addition caused true and correct copies of the foregoing document to be served upon the following counsel of record by electronic mail:

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